LINCOLN SENSE

Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors • Dr. Sol Taylor, President • 13515 Magnolia Blvd. • Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

SLCC is dedicated to the collecting and study of the LINCOLN CENT. Our journal, LINCOLN SENSE, is published six times a year. Annual membership is $15 and foreign mailing is $20. Life membership is available at $150.

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COINS ON PAGE 11 ARE NOT FOR SALE BY SLCC.

IF A PINK SLIP IS ENCLOSED, IT INDICATES YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED OR WILL EXPIRE BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE OF LINCOLN SENSE. PLEASE SEND YOUR RENEWAL CHECK FOR $15 TO SLCC PROMPTLY. YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED.

SLCC HAS SUPPORTED THE HOBBY FOR FIFTEEN YEARS THANKS TO YOUR CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP.

IF YOU PLAN TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS, PLEASE NOTIFY SLCC. IN EACH MAILING WE LOSE ONE OR MORE MEMBERS WHO HAVE MOVED AND THEIR MAIL IS RETURNED AS "NO FORWARDING ADDRESS ON FILE" OR "FORWARDING HAS EXPIRED".

A PENNY SAVED....

It took John Tregembo sixteen years to accumulate 1.03 million cents just from change and picking up coins from the street. The article is from the current issue of MODERN MATURITY, the official publication of the American Association of retired Persons (AARP).

A Penny Saved Is a Pickup Earned

ABOUT 16 YEARS AGO, JOHN TREGEMBO DECIDED UPON a goal: "I'd never seen what a million of anything looks like," he says. "So I decided to do something about it."

He began collecting pennies—and more pennies. "I'd look for them on the street, buy them from friends, anywhere I could," he says. "But I never bought them from a bank. That would've taken the fun out of it."

A few months ago, Tregembo achieved his goal: He'd collected more than a million pennies—1,030,000 to be exact, a number equal to $10,300 and about 7,000 pounds in weight, organized by year and mint mark.

What does a man do with more than three tons of pennies? "I used them as a down payment on a new pickup truck," says Tregembo. "Next time I'll collect something lighter—like dollar bills."

—Mark Wexler

R MODERN MATURITY *March • April 1997*

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RECENT AUCTION RESULTS

The Bullet Sale at the Long beach Sale in February (1997) had a run of Lincoln cent matte proofs along with a good selection of high grade regular issues. Here are the matte proof results (courtesy of Gary Rosner). Prices do not include 10% bidder's fee.

1909VDB ANACS PR65RB, no problems $3,300
1909 ANACS PR65RB, close to red, no spots, beautiful $400
1910 PR65RB ANACS, few spots, mostly red $600
1911 ANACS PR65RB, deep orange overtones $575
1912 PR64RB ANACS multicolored hues $600
1912 PR66RB ANACS Gary says, "streaky", gold oilve hues $1025
1913 PR65RB ANACS full red, few flyspecks $320
1914 ANACS PR65RB Antique-gold obv $320
1915 PR65RB ANACS Razor sharp, some specks rev. $400
1916 PR65RB ANACS, Gary says, "brown". $320

Membership Report

Since our publicity campaign started off the New Year, we have had a supercharged response. The new 1997 members represent the largest group of new members taken in any similar period in SLCC records. Welcome to all.

R1189	Bernard Siegal	MA	R1190	Jose G. Socas	FL
R1191	Jason Bennett	MI	R1192	Gary D. Kelly	MI
R1193	Charles P. Schaefer	NJ	R1194	Eric L. Rumschlag	IN
R1195	Rosalie Berry	TX	R1196	Jack Childers	MD
R1197	Max kennedy	OH	R1198	Joe Salina	MS
R1199	Allen Chavez	MN	R1200	Daniel J. Coleman	CA
R1201	Robert Wood	ME	R1202	John T. Engel	IA
R1203	John C. Mills	NV	R1204	Douglas Thompson	OH
R1205	Ben Biber	MI	R1206	David Klein, MD	NY
R1207	A. Earle Wood	CT	R1208	Elbert Sidle	OH
R1209	Betty L. Carter	NC	R1210	David Hall	TX
R1211	Jerome A. Hart Jr	NJ	R1212	Richard Yanus	MA
R1213	Kevin Sevey	IN	R1214	Bill V. Hondry	DE
R1215	Matthew R. Jones	CA	R1216	Robert Stranczek	IL
R1217	Thomas E. Caton	MD	R1218	Gordon Ballard	CA
R1219	John F. Vandemore	IL			

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LONG BEACH SHOW

SLCC met at the Long Beach show Feb. 22. At the meeting, members got to see the new pocket sized version of the 150 Top Cherry Pickers Guide. (See ad on page 8). Dr. Taylor went through the book and pointed out some coins that are still very much "out there" to be found. Another member showed two BU 1909S cents bought at a recent auction. Both were the scarce RPM#1 S over horizontal S variety--worth considerably more than the bid price. Dr. Taylor mentioned the scarcity of the 1955S triple S RPM. One member said he found one in six BU rolls of 1955S cents. They tend to be found in less than 1/1,000 coins. Thus they are considered quite scarce. Gordon Ballard, a visitor to the meeting joined up as member #R1218. His brother knew Dr. Taylor many years ago at the Whittier Coin Club when Taylor

was president (1964-66).

One member showed off a very rare 1964 specimen cent. It is described in Lange's book (P.344). Only about a dozen are known. It was recommended it be sent to ANACS to be safely slabbed.

SLCC meets on Saturday of the three Long Beach shows--usually held the first week in February, June and October--though some years the dates are moved to accomodate other large events. Check the numismatic press for upcoming dates.

Dr. Taylor has been seeking used coin folders (preferably the Lincoln Cent 1940-) series. Each year he gives a program to one of the local schools and needs about two dozen Lincoln cent folders for his program. Each boy and girl gets a roll of cents (mixed wheats and Memorials), an empty album, and a recent issue of Trends. Then after a brief explanation of dates and mintmarks (using enlarged drawings), each student goes to work on the roll and fills as many holes as possible. At the end of a given period (usually 30 minutes), the one with the most holes correctly filled wins a copy of THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT. The extra coins go into the class kitty for supplies or other class needs. This program has proved to be a very exciting tool to motivate 4th or 5th grade youngsters to get involved in the hobby. All used Lincoln cent folders wanted!!!

A similar program involves used commemorative stamps. Save your used commems for SLCC or donate to your local 4th or 5th grade classroom.

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THE MEMORIAL REVERSE

Much less attention is paid to the 1959 to date Lincolns, due in large part to the fewer rare coins in the series--though there are some. In a lengthy article by David Ganz in the January, 1994 issue of THE NUMISMATIST, "A Milestone for a Monumental Coin" Ganz shows an early rendering of the Memorial reverse which includes a ring of 13 stars and the words "Lincoln Memorial". This will be included in the next edition of the Lincoln Cent Guide along with some of the material from the article.

Members of the Commission of Fine Arts suggested eliminating the stars and the inscription LINCOLN MEMORIAL because they crowded the design and were considered unnecessary.

BOOK REVIEW

*Fell's UNITED STATES COIN BOOK ***1997*** by Roderick P. Hughes*

The temptation to compare this annual edition with the annual Red Book is inescapable. Fell's is a larger format and 276 pages, larger type face, and less data per coin series than the current edition of the Red Book.

Since our major issue of interest is the Lincoln Cent, Fell's devotes five pages to the series and basically covers only the regular mint issues up to 1964 and only the 1955 doubled die and 1960small date as the only variations. The content is limited to grade columns and approximate retail values up to MS60 grade. The Red Book covers seven pages and includes several varieties including the 1909S RPM#1, 1969S DDO, 1946S/D as well as the matte proof issues from 1909-1916 and the brilliant proof issues from 1936 to date. The Red Book includes 19 illustrations in the Lincoln series and Fell's includes the obverse and reverse of the wheat back and the Memorial coins. The Fell's book is more for the basic non-collector or accumulator with a minimal sprinkling of numismatic information in each series. Essentially, it can be considered a beginner's U.S. coin reference guide.

Priced at $14.95 softcover. Reviewed by Dr. Sol Taylor 2/12/97.

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MATTE PROOF LINCOLNS

These limited issue collector coins were minted from 1909-1917 and are very scarce to rare, especially in high grades of Pf65 or better. In the new Wexler & Flynn Lincoln Cent book, the authors track down Mint archive data and conclude that the mintage numbers in the Red Book (and all other similar sources) should be changed. For example, the authors conclude the 1909VDB matte proof was not an issue of 420 as has been officially touted since the first Red Book was issued in 1947, but more than 1,100. This does not make this coin any less rare than it is now, but if the data can be substantiated, the official guides and all reference guides should adjust their mintage data.

Similar differences are noted for the other years of issue as well. There is a ten page section covering the mintage data and die features of each issue. This material in conjunction with the 12 page monograph by Leonard Albrecht published in THE NUMISMATIST in October, 1983 (pp2051-2062) would bring a collector up to date on this segment of Lincoln Cent history.

The next two pages are the first two pages from Albrecht's monograph. Copies are available from the ANA library.

Prices and Population Data on this series are generally on th rise, as each sale shows a strong interest by collectors in these

elusive coins. As a very few actually merit Pf65RD status, prices for such coins will set records almost each time one is sold at public auction. lesser graded coins say, Pf63RB, are flat and sell for under $100 in smaller sales (SLCC sold several in recent years). These are still very scarce coins, and at these levels, quite good buys. Since the services do not hold similar standards for colors, one can often find a Pf63RB which could easily be a Pf64RD at another grading service. True "Red" matte proofs do not match the "red" seen on same date BU coins. Most matte proofs in the finest states of preservation are more olive tan with a hint of russet than tomato (mint) red. Of course, some may have been chemically tampered with over the years and a few cherry red pieces may exist, but not from Mint production or natural aging. And, since a major feature of the series is the edge, slabbed coins prevent one from examining this feature for details which may affect one's value for the coin in the slab.

At the SLCC meeting in Long Beach two members reported finding matte proofs in albums along with business strikes of other years . Another example of "cherry picking".

Finally, most articles on this series caution collectors that for some of these years, early die state business strikes can easily be confused for a matte proof. Thus the Albrecht monograph would be crucial in spotting the die features known to identify the real thing. Even at public auction, this author has seen more than one case of suspect "matte proofs" being offered for sale. One such 1917 has surfaced twice in the past two years and has sold to collectors who may never be able to authenticate the coin. Several BU 1915 cents have been seen that come very close to a matte proof, but in each case, lack one or more details to be the real McCoy. A few years ago, SLCC sold a 1909 VDB that was a twin to the matte proof lacking only the die chip on the reverse and the die polish marks on the obverse, but the squared rim, matte surface, cameo features, and strike were very close. So it was sold as "close relative of a matte proof", perhaps one of the "bad" matte proofs described in the Wexler and Albrecht articles.

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SPECIAL BOOK OFFER

About two dozen hardback copies remain of the 3rd edition of THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT. Available to SLCC members postpaid at $10 a copy. Autographed of course as you wish. Great present for the budding collector or an addition to your numismatic bookshelf. These are not numbered copies.

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Matte Proof LINCOLN CENTS 1909-1917

by LEONARD ALBRECHT, ANA-113020

Preparation of dies for Proof production involves a special process in which a stock or inventory die is carefully selected and then highly polished and cleaned. In the early 1900s an experimental technique was initiated, whereby the dies or coins (or perhaps both) were sandblasted or chemically etched to achieve a finish that was granular in appearance. Proof coins displaying this particular finish are commonly referred to as Matte Proofs.

The exact method of manufacture of Matte Proof pieces has yet to be fully documented, but it is evident that they were struck twice at low speed and high pressure. Generally, a single pair of dies was used for Matte Proof production.

In James Rankin Young's book, *The United States Mint at Philadelphia* (1903), the author describes the operations of the Mint, room by room. His description of the medal room supports the use of sandblasting in the production of Proof coins:

> In a single room in the southern end of the second floor of the building is the medal room, a department under the Coiner though almost an independent mint in itself. All the "proof coins" (those given a particularly fine finish) and medals are made in this room. On one side of the room is a small furnace and melting pot where melts can be made if necessary. On either side of the furnace is an annealing oven. In the center of the room is a large cutting press, which will cut dies up to four inches in diameter. Against the wall are two electrically driven hydraulic presses, capable respectively of a pressure of 400 and 300 tons to the square inch, and next to them the two hydraulic pumps. In the basement this department has a huge press capable of giving 1100 tons pressure to the square inch. This is used on the largest dies, those four inches in diameter. Off in an out-of-the-way corner is the old-fashioned hand screw press, with its long arms and heavy weights. The foreman, growing reminiscent, tells how, as a helper, he used to get these arms going around at such a gait that they would move the whole machine.
>
> The proof sets of coins are made under the government supervision to be preserved for record, or sold to collectors. The face of the dies used in stamping these sets have been given an extra fine finish, and glisten as though they had been nickel-plated. The blanks for the coins are annealed and stamped by the hydraulic press. The operator then gives them a thorough acid bath, and polishes them singly with a handful of wet sand. If they are bronze pieces, they may be given the deep bronze finish or clouded over in the sand blast. The latter device is a small wooden box with glass sides. A pipe on the inside blows down a fine shower of sand. The operator, wearing a big pair of mits to protect his hands, holds the coin under this stream of sand until the operation is finished, when it has a delicate frosted appearance.[1]

Matte Proof coins have been known to differ slightly in style. Some appear to hav a "satin" finish (a very fine but slightly subdued lustre), while others are considere to have a "deep matte" finish (a dull, granular lustre) caused by variations in the metho of production.

The focus of this study is the Matte Proof Lincoln cent. In most cases Matte Proo cents have sharp, squared-off inner and outer rims; a soft, dull lustre; a slightly granula

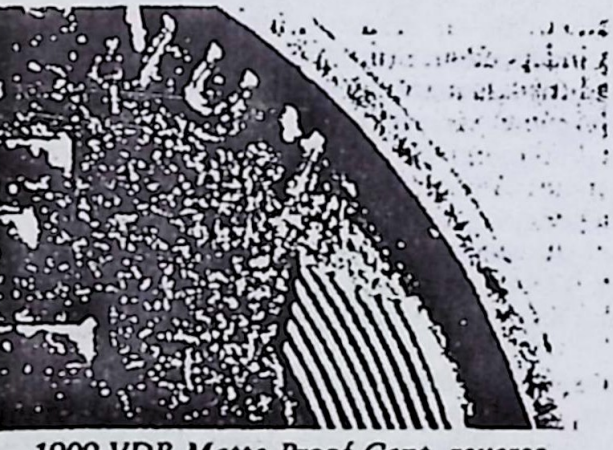
surface, and often, very fine die polish. They also frequently display light horizontal striations around the edge of the coin and a brilliant rather than dull matte finish. However, care must be taken when attempting to identify Matte Proof cents as some deceptive business strikes have surfaced.

The diagnostics described here are drawn from ANA Certification Service files of known dies and die states. However, other genuine Matte Proof coins also could exist, the products of different dies or die states. Authentication of any coin requires consideration of all diagnostics, not just a single characteristic. Occasionally, business strikes can be mistaken for Matte Proof pieces, but, as far as our records show, the diagnostics discussed in this article have appeared only on Proof coins.

NOTES

1. James Rankin Young. *The United States Mint at Philadelphia* (Philadelphia: 1903), p. 65.

1909-VDB Matte Proof Cent.



1909-VDB Matte Proof Cent, reverse.

1909-VDB

Quantity Minted: 420

Most often seen with deep matte surface, sharp detail, and sharp, squared-off inner and outer rims.

Obverse: Shows die polish on and in front of nose. Single die scratch behind Lincoln's coat, toward R in LIBERTY.

Reverse: Crescent-shaped die chip to right of M in UNUM.

1909-VDB Matte Proof Cent, obverse.

New for 1997!

The Cherrypickers' Top 150

A pocket guide to the most important varieties to cherry.

From Bill Fivaz and J. T. Stanton

is new pocket-sized guide contains photos of and information on the 150 varieties ich the authors feel are the most prized picks. Included are some listings from the rd edition with updated information, plus photos and information on more than *35 ne rieties* which are sure to become highly sought after. This new 3.5" x 5" guide is signed with the collector in mind. The spiral binding is placed at the top, so that it can easily placed into and removed from almost any shirt pocket.

ide spread acceptance of the recent *The Top 100 Morgan Dollar Varieties: The VAM ys* by Michael S. Fey and Jeff Oxman proves there is a need for such a handy guide. e same top quality photographs to which our readers have become accustomed are cluded with each listing, as well as up-to-date pricing information.

e retail price for *the Cherrypickers' Top 150* will be $19.95. However, a pre-publicati ice of $14.95 + $1.05 P & H will be good for all orders received postmarked by Januar , 1997. Plans are to have the book available in time for the FUN Convention, January 1997. To ensure that you receive one of the first copies, use the handy order form low. Mail orders will be shipped as soon as supplies are available.

e have a target date of August 1998 for the fourth edition of *the Cherrypickers' Guide*. r those wanting more information on new die varieties before that time, we would ggest subscribing to *Cherrypickers' News*. This bi-monthly newsletter contains news w varieties, and over 40 photos per issue on average. The U.S. subscription rate is 9.50 for 6 issues. Checks should be made payable to *Cherrypickers' News*.

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il check or money order, payable to J. T. Stanton, c/o Bill Fivaz, P. O. Box 888660, Dunwoody, GA 30356-0660.
-publication price is $14.95 per book + $1.05 P & H (total of $16.00). Use the form below to order today!

me _____

dress _____

y _____ State _____ Zip _____

one (optional) _____

ase personalize my book(s) to _____

tal enclosed _____ ($14.95 + 1.05 P & H = $16.00 per book) Number books ordered _____

___ Please send me information on *Cherrypickers' News*, the bi-monthly publication from J. T. Stanton.

n't forget: Checks payable to J. T. Stanton, c/o Bill Fivaz, P. O. Box 888660, Dunwoody, GA 30356-0660.

MAIL BID SALE #83. Closing date for bids March 28, 1997
Please mail your bid sheets early.

Lot Description

LONG BEACH CONSIGNMENT

1 1909 MS64RD, small lamination on reverse
2 1909VDB MS64RD, minor misaligned die, OF doubled on rev
3 1934 MS66RD gem
4 1936 MS66RD gem
5 1938S MS65RD, RPM#16
6 Roll 50 1967 SMS mostly MS65 quality
6A 1965 edition SPADONE'S MAJOR VARIETY & ODDITY GUIDE, like new, very fresh copy of this pioneering variety guide

IDAHO CONSIGNMENT

7 1909 LINCOLN MS66RD, gem, early strike
8 1909VDB MS66RD gem, early die state
9 1909S Lincoln, XF40, light cleaning marks
10 1910 MS65RD, sharp details
11 1918 MS65RD, tiny spot on collar, sharp
12 1925 MS64RD, early die state
13 1926 MS64RB, more red on reverse. Obv mixed R&B
14 1927 MS66RD, gem, sharp
15 1928D MS64BN (more purplish brown), sharp, scarce in high grades
16 1929 MS63RB, avg die state
17 1930 MS65RD, fresh color
18 1931D AU55BN, traces of luster
19 1931S KEY DATE AU 50BN , few reverse dings
20 1934 and 1935 both MS66RD, matched gems
21 1936 MS66+RD. golden gem blazer
22 1937, 1938, 1939 Matched trio of MS66RD
23 1939D MS65RD, sharp
24 1939S MS65RD, bright color
25 1940 MS66RD, gem
26 1970S small date Type II, MS64RB

MINNESOTA CONSIGNMENT

27 1901 Indian MS63RB, nicely toned, sharp details
28 1903 Indian MS63BN, traces of red in recesses
29 Trio 1909 Lincolns MS65RD, light colorful toning
30 Trio 1930 MS66RD, matched trio
31 1932 MS66RD, sharp
32 1937D DDO 1-0-V, MS65RD
33 1937D RPM#2 MS65RD, matched pair (2 coins)

34 1941 Matched 5 coins MS65RD, all minor doubling in TRUST
35 1938S RPM#2 Triple S, 3 matched MS65RD
36 1938S RPM#1 S/S, 4 matched MS65RD
37 1954D RPM#1d, 3 matched MS65RD
38 1955 DDO 2-0-II&V, MS65RD
39 1955D DDO 1-0-III, MS65RD
40 1960D DDO 1-0-II sm/lg stage 2, MS65RD
41 1960D DDO 1-0-II sm/lg stage 3, MS65RD
42 1960D DDO 1-0-II sm/lg stage 4, MS65RD
43 1964 DDR 1-R-V (featured in last issue of LINCOLN SENSE) MS65RD, few specks obv and rev.
44 1970S small date 3 MS65RD (matched trio)
45 1919PDS trio of XF45-AU50 BN
46 1941-1958 set of BU 51 coins in a tube. Avg 64+ to 65RD (incl 1943PDS steels MS65)
47 1941-1958 set of 50 (no 1956P) in 2x2s all BUs, MS63+-MS65RD

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED BID SHEET OR SIMILAR SHEET AND MAIL YOUR BIDS IN EARLY. ONLY SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF WINNING BIDS. PAYMENT MUST BE MADE PROMPTLY AS THERE IS A FIVE DAY RETURN POLICY. SLABBED COINS NOT RETURNABLE.

End of mail bid sale #83.

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RESULTS OF MAIL BID SALE #82

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID		
1	10.50	8	23.50	15	12.	22	4.	29	50.	36	6.
2	17.	9	18.	16	22.	23	4.	30	4.	37	12.
3	151.	10	2.50	17	150.	24	4.	31	4.	38	7.50
4	65.	11	15t	18	30.	25	28.	32	8.	39	8.
5	8.	12	77.	19	5.	26	5.	33	4.	40	4.25
6	13.	13	20.	20	38.	27	4.	34	11.	41	11.t
7	36.50	14	8.t	21	19.	28	4.t	35	6.t	42	6.

There were no late bids and 27 of the 30 bidders won one or more bids

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RECENT AUCTION RESULTS

January, Superior sale. Prices do not include 10% buyer's fee.

1909 VDB PCGS MS67RD $150
1909S VDB AU (raw) $425
1911S NGC MS65RB $140
1912D MS64RB $60
1913D PCGS MS64RD $70
1914D MS60RB (raw) $1250
1914D VF30 $90
1922Plain MS63RB (raw) $3500 !
1923S MS64RB (raw) $200
1923S MS63RB (raw) $105
1936 NGC PR65RD $800
1972 DDO (#1) MS65RD $120
1983 DDR PCGS MS64RD $135

Lincoln Cent collection 1909-1984S including proof only issue (216 coins) No doubled dies. Good to MS $675

RECENT LINCOLN CENT RETAIL AD

LINCOLN CENT SPECIALS

MS-63 Lincoln Cents

	P	D	S
1931	$ 24.00	$ 65.00	$ 55.00
1932	20.00	25.00	
1933	22.00	19.00	
1934	5.00	18.50	

MS-64 Lincoln Cents

	P	D	S
1931	$ 30.00	$ 85.00	$ 85.00
1932	27.00	36.00	
1933	27.00	22.00	
1934	6.50	22.00	

CH/GEM BU Lincoln Cents

	P	D	S
1935	$ 2.20	$ 4.40	$ 10.75
1936	1.70	3.30	2.70
1937	1.35	1.85	2.45
1938	1.60	2.35	1.35
1939	.90	2.70	1.50
1940	.85	.75	.75
1941	1.25	3.05	2.60
1942	.55	.40	3.80
1943	.70	1.00	1.95
1944	.35	.50	.25
1945	.65	.30	.20
1946	.30	.25	.30
1947	1.05	.25	.70
1948	.55	.30	.55
1949	.45	.50	1.05
1950	.65	.70	.65
1951	.60	.35	.60
1952	.45	.25	1.60
1953	.15	.15	.30
1954	.20	.15	.15
1955	.20	.15	.35

Complete set of 1934-1964 PDS grading CH/GEM BU in custom Dansco album $94.50

1972 DOUBLED DIE LINCOLN CENT

CH/GEM BU
Blazing full mint red
No spots

$175.00

1983 DOUBLED DIE REVERSE LINCOLN CENT

CH/GEM BU
Blazing full mint red
Original-no spotting

$160.00

1909-P VDB LINCOLN CENT

MS-65 Red
Gorgeous full red
first year of issue

$30.00